REMARKS

Upon entry of the claims from Article 34 Amendment (**ATTACHMENT C**) and upon entry of the above amendment, the claims will be 1 to 23 and 27 to 34.

The above amendment is presented to eliminate improper multiple dependency and non-statutory use claims.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is entitled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Koji HANASAKI et al.

By _____
Matthew Jacob
Registration No. 25,154
Attorney for Applicants

MJ/pjm
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
February 26, 2002

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3, 10 to 13 and 15 have been amended as follows:

3. **(Amended)** The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 [or 2] which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

10. **(Amended)** The compound according to claim 8 [or 9] wherein R^1 is a C2-C9 straight or branched alkylene optionally substituted with alkylene, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

11. **(Amended)** The compound according to [any one of claims] claim 8 [to 10] wherein R^1 is a C2-C9 straight alkylene substituted with alkylene, or a C2-C9 branched alkylene, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

12. **(Amended)** The compound according to [any one of claims] claim 8 [to 11] wherein R^6 is alkoxy or alkylthio, and R^7 is optionally substituted aryl, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

13. **(Amended)** The compound according to [any one of claims] claim 8 [to 12] wherein R^3 and R^4 each is independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy or alkylthio, and A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

15. **(Amended)** A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound according to [any one of claims] claim 8 [to 14], a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxy, cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, optionally substituted carbamoyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, optionally substituted aminoalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, alkylthioalkoxy, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted non-aromatic heterocyclic group, alkoxyiminoalkyl or a group of the formula: $-C(=O)-R^H$ wherein R^H is hydrogen, alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted non-aromatic heterocyclic group,

or R^3 and R^4 taken together may form alkylenedioxy, A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle or optionally substituted aromatic heterocycle.

3. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 or 2 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

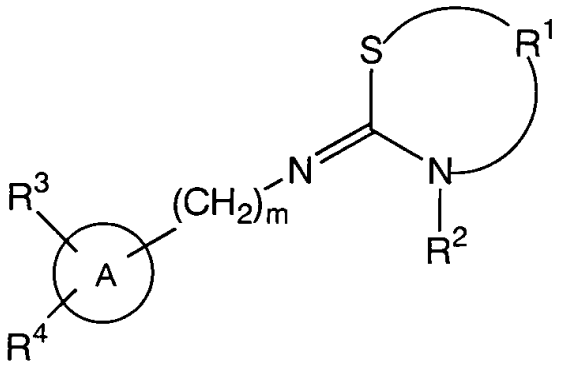
4. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which has an agonistic activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

5. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent.

6. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which is useful as an immunosuppressive agent.

7. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 which is useful as a nephritis treating agent.

8. A compound of the formula (II):



(II)

wherein R^1 is optionally substituted alkylene, R^2 is a group of the formula: -C(=R^5)-R^6 wherein R^5 is O or S, R^6 is alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aralkyloxy, optionally substituted aralkylthio, optionally substituted aralkylamino, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, or optionally substituted aminoalkyl; or a group of the formula: -SO_2R^7 wherein R^7 is alkyl, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl, R^3 and R^4 each is independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted aryloxy, cycloalkyl, halogen, hydroxy, nitro, haloalkyl, haloalkoxy, optionally substituted carbamoyl, carboxy, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl, optionally substituted aminoalkyl, alkoxyalkoxy, alkylthioalkoxy, optionally substituted heteroaryl, optionally substituted non-aromatic heterocyclic group, alkoxyiminoalkyl, or a group of the formula: -C(=O)-R^H wherein R^H is hydrogen, alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted non-aromatic heterocyclic group, or

R^3 and R^4 taken together may form alkylenedioxy, m is an integer of 0 to 2, A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle or optionally substituted aromatic heterocycle, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

9. The compound according to claim 8 wherein m is 0, a prodrug of itself, a

pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

10. The compound according to claim 8 or 9 wherein R^1 is a C2-C9 straight or branched alkylene optionally substituted with alkylene, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

11. The compound according to any one of claims 8 to 10 wherein R^1 is a C2-C9 straight alkylene substituted with alkylene, or a C2-C9 branched alkylene, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

12. The compound according to any one of claims 8 to 11 wherein R^6 is alkoxy or alkylthio, and R^7 is optionally substituted aryl, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

13. The compound according to any one of claims 8 to 12 wherein R^3 and R^4 each is independently hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy or alkylthio, and A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

14. The compound according to claim 8 wherein R^1 is 2,2-dimethyltrimethylene, 2,2-diethyltrimethylene, 2,2-ethylenetrimethylene, 1-methyltrimethylene, 2-methyltrimethylene, trimethylene, 2,2-di-n-propyltrimethylene, 2,2-tetramethylenetrimethylene, 2,2-pentamethylenetrimethylene, 1,1-dimethylethylene or 1-methylethylene, R^6 is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, i-propoxy, n-butoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n-propylthio, i-propylthio, i-butylthio, sec-butylthio, benzyloxy, benzylthio, methoxymethyl, ethoxymethyl, methylthiomethyl, ethylthiomethyl or ethylamino, R^7 is methyl, ethyl, 4-tolyl, 4-nitrophenyl, 3-nitrophenyl, 2-nitrophenyl, 4-methoxyphenyl, 4-trifluoromethylphenyl, 2-thienyl or 2-naphthyl, R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, i-propyl, n-butyl, i-butyl, sec-butyl, t-butyl, methoxy, ethoxy, n-

propoxy, i-propoxy, n-butoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, n-propylthio, i-propylthio, dimethylamino, acetylamino, N-acetylmethylamino, diethylamino, ethylmethylamino, propylmethylamino, phenyl, phenoxy, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, trifluoromethyl, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, N-methylcarbamoyl, methoxycarbonyl, methanesulfinyl, ethanesulfinyl, methanesulfonyl, ethanesulfonyl, acetyl, methoxymethyl, 1-methoxyethyl, 3-pyridyl, morpholino, pyrrolidino, piperidino, 2-oxopyrrolidino, 1-methoxyiminoethyl or morpholinocarbonyl, R^4 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, fluoro, chloro, nitro, methoxy or ethoxy, or

R^3 and R^4 taken together may form $-O-CH_2-O-$, A is benzene, naphthalene, pyridine or quinoline, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

15. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound according to any one of claims 8 to 14, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

16. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

17. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which has an agonistic activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

18. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent.

19. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which is useful as an immunosuppressive agent.

20. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16 which is useful as a nephritis treating agent.

21. A method for treating inflammation which comprises administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1.

22. A method of immunosuppression which comprises administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1.

23. A method for treating nephritis which comprises administering the pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1.

24. Use of the compound according to claim 1 for manufacturing an anti-inflammatory agent.

25. Use of the compound according to claim 1 for manufacturing an immunosuppressive agent.

26. Use of the compound according to claim 1 for manufacturing a nephritis treating agent.

27. (Added) The compound according to claim 8 wherein R^1 is a C2-C9 straight alkylene substituted with alkylene or a C2-C9 branched alkylene, R^2 is a group of the formula: $-C(=R^5)-R^6$ wherein R^5 is O or S, R^6 is alkyl, alkoxy, alkylthio, optionally substituted amino, optionally substituted aralkyloxy, optionally substituted aralkylthio, optionally substituted aralkylamino, alkoxyalkyl, alkylthioalkyl or optionally substituted aminoalkyl; m is 0, A is optionally substituted aromatic carbocycle or optionally substituted aromatic heterocycle, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

28. (Added) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound according to claim 27, a prodrug of itself, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof or a solvate thereof.

29. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which has a binding activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

30. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which has an agonistic activity to a cannabinoid type 2 receptor.

31. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which

is useful as an anti-inflammatory agent.

32. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which is useful as an immunosuppressive agent.

33. (Added) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 28 which is useful as a nephritis treating agent.